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Docket No.
405507/0006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Toshihisa Saruta

Group Art Unit: 2861

Application No.: 09/996,986

Examiner: Anh T. N. Vo

Filed: November 30, 2001

For: **PRINTER AND INK CARTRIDGE ATTACHED THERETO**

Date: February 13, 2004

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING
BY "FIRST CLASS MAIL" (37 C.F.R. § 1.8)

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

I hereby certify that the following correspondence:

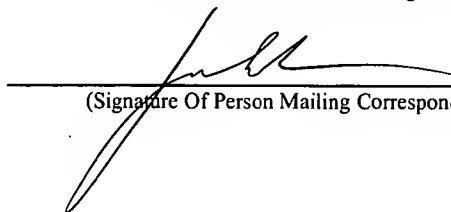
Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement (2 pgs.); Form PTO/SB/08a+b (3 pgs.); 7 references and 4 Office Actions; return postcard

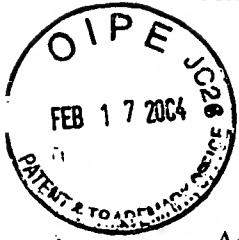
is being deposited on February 13, 2004 with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope bearing sufficient postage thereon and addressed to:

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: **Toshihisa Saruta**

Serial No.: **09/996,986**

Art Unit: **2861**

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February 13, 2004

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A+B). Copies of the listed references are also enclosed.

The cited references were called to Applicants' attention in Office Actions in Japanese Patent Application Nos. 2002-152154, 2002-179601, 2002-152146 and 2002-171460, which are counterparts to the instant case. English translations of the Japanese Office Actions are submitted herewith, and the Examiner is respectfully directed thereto for a concise explanation of relevance of the cited art.

It should be noted that cited JP 4-500482 is a counterpart to U.S. Patent No. 5,365,312, already of record in this case.

For the Examiner's convenience, English abstracts of the cited Japanese references are also provided, except for JP 4-500482, for which an English abstract was not available.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being cited in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3), to the best of the undersigned's knowledge, before the mailing of an Office Action, and so no fee is believed to be due.

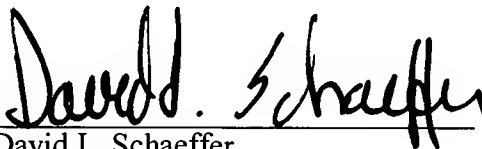
Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required for the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, as well as any other fee which may now or hereafter be due, to Deposit Account No. 19-4709.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant form (PTO/SB/08A+B) be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please do not hesitate to contact applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Attorney for Applicant
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New York, New York 10038-4982
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PTO/SB/08a (08-03)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)	Complete if Known	
	Application Number	09/996,986
	Filing Date	November 30, 2001
	First Named Inventor	Toshihisa Saruta
	Art Unit	2861
	Examiner Name	Anh T N Vo
Sheet 1 of 3	Attorney Docket Number	405507/0006

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US-			
		US-			
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 4-500482	1/30/1992	(unknown)		
		JP 8-187854	7/23/1996	Canon Inc.	w/ Engl. Abst.	
		JP 8-197748	8/6/1996	Copier Co. Ltd.	w/ Engl. Abst.	
		JP 8-224885	9/3/1996	Canon Inc.	w/ Engl. Abst.	
		JP 9-1823	1/7/1997	NEC Eng Ltd.	w/ Engl. Abst.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTD Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary) Sheet <u>2</u> of <u>3</u>		Complete if Known	
		Application Number	09/996,986
		Filing Date	November 30, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Toshihisa Saruta
		Art Unit	2861
		Examiner Name	Anh T N Vo
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		US-			
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		JP 9-314861	12/9/1997	Canon Inc.	w/ Engl. Abst.	
		JP 10-217509	8/18/1998	Hewlett Packard	w/ Engl. Abstract	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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